

remarkable facility for understanding and manipulating formulas—that arcane bit of legislating that drives the allocation of billions of dollars. He has “delivered” for New York, but it’s not frequently noted because so few understand it.

More important, every time he speaks or writes, it’s worth paying attention. I think back to the summer of 1990, when Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Texas) offered an amendment to a housing bill. Gramm wanted to rob Community Development Block Grant funds from a few “Rust Belt” states and spread them across the rest of the country. The amendment looked like a winner: More than 30 states would benefit. Moynihan spoke in opposition. He delivered an extemporaneous speech on the nature of our federal system worthy of inclusion in the seminal work of Hamilton, Madison, and Jay as *The Federalist* No. 86.

(His speech was effective. The amendment was defeated. New York’s share of CDBG funding was preserved.) What I most want to comment on is Moynihan’s courage. Too many of today’s tepid, timid legislators are afraid to offer amendments they know will fail.

They are afraid of offending this constituency or that special interest. They have no heart, no courage. Moynihan always stands on principle, never on expediency. He’s not afraid to cast a tough vote, to be in the minority—even a minority of one. His positions on issues from bankruptcy “reform” to government secrecy, from welfare repeal to habeas corpus, from the “line item” veto to Constitutional amendments du jour, haven’t been popular. But I’m confident they are right. It just takes the rest of us a while to catch up with him.

While Moynihan has been successful as a legislator, I think of him as the patron senator of lost causes (i.e., right but unpopular). Every senator is an advocate for the middle class. That’s where the votes are. What I admire and cherish about Moynihan is his long, hard, eloquent fight on behalf of the underclass—the disenfranchised, the demoralized, the destitute, the despised.

T.S. Eliot wrote to a friend, “We fight for lost causes because we know that our defeat and dismay may be the preface to our successors’ victory, though that victory itself will be temporary; we fight rather to keep something alive than in the expectation that anything will triumph.” Eliot’s wistful statement, to me, captures the essence of Moynihan. He has an unflinching sense of responsibility.

For the past quarter century, Moynihan has been the Senate’s reigning intellectual. But he has been more than that. He has defended precious government institutions under attack by those who have contempt for government.

And he has been the Senate’s—and the nation’s—conscience. His fealty as a public servant, ultimately, has been to the truth as best as he can determine it. He seeks it out, and he speaks it, regardless of who will be discomfited.

He has done so with rigor, and wit, a little bit of mischief now and then, and uncommon decency.

I have been privileged to work in the United States Senate for 16 years, and for several outstanding members, Republicans and Democrats. I will not see another Moynihan in my career. He is sui generis.

When Thomas Jefferson followed Benjamin Franklin as envoy to France, he told the Comte de Vergennes, “I succeed him; no one could replace him.” Others will succeed Moy-

nihan; no one will replace him. We should pause for a moment, and give thanks that he has devoted his life and considerable talents to public service.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, September 5, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,678,475,470,839.16, five trillion, six hundred seventy-eight billion, four hundred seventy-five million, four hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred thirty-nine dollars and sixteen cents.

Five years ago, September 5, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,968,613,000,000, four trillion, nine hundred sixty-eight billion, six hundred thirteen million.

Ten years ago, September 5, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,241,866,000,000, three trillion, two hundred forty-one billion, eight hundred sixty-six million.

Fifteen years ago, September 5, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,823,101,000,000, one trillion, eight hundred twenty-three billion, one hundred one million.

Twenty-five years ago, September 5, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$545,270,000,000, five hundred forty-five billion, two hundred seventy million which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,133,205,470,839.16, five trillion, one hundred thirty-three billion, two hundred five million, four hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred thirty-nine dollars and sixteen cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF TOM NORRIS AND JAMES BROWN FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FEDERAL WAY SUMMER MATH PROGRAM

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, imagine 140 students who want to spend their summer learning math. For students participating in the Summer Math Program at Thomas Jefferson High School in Federal Way, Washington, this is just the case. For the past five years, Tom Norris and James Brown have worked tirelessly and created a successful program that has dramatically improved the math skills of hundreds of students.

When Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown started the Summer Math Program, they had five students in attendance. Since then, the program has become well-known throughout Thomas Jefferson High School as a resource for students struggling with math or hoping to improve their SAT scores and has grown by leaps and bounds.

The Summer Math Program is based on a three part system that includes: Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus, an SAT summer program, and “The Math Team.” The Advanced Algebra and Pre-

Calculus course enables students who desire to complete Calculus before they leave high school to enroll in higher math classes in the following school year. The SAT summer program, offered at a much lower cost than other SAT review classes, equips students with the skills and confidence needed for their college preparatory exams. As a result, Thomas Jefferson High School has some of the highest SAT scores in the South Puget Sound of Washington State.

Additionally, students who enjoy competing in math competitions can participate on the Math Team. Students practice throughout the summer in preparation for the annual national competition which took place in July. As a true testament to the excellence of the program, Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown coached the team to a fifth-place victory last summer when the students participated against 50 other schools. This certainly was a great accomplishment for the program and students participating!

Samuel Kim, a Math Team member who will be a senior this year, told me that the Math Team, “keeps you in the right frame of mind during summer so you can keep your math skills strong, and it gives you good interaction with others.” Samuel had nothing but applause for his coaches stating, “Mr. Norris is very friendly and inspirational, yet demanding and excited to see us succeed in competition, while Mr. Brown is more light-hearted in his motivational tactics.”

The record of the Math Team and the achievements of students in the Summer Math Program speaks not only to the excellence of the program but also to the efforts and drive of both Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown. Their dedication to education, and math in particular, is rarely paralleled in other local school districts during the summer months. I am impressed with the dedication of these two men to their students’ education even during the summer months. It is with great pleasure that I recognize them for their outstanding service to the students of Thomas Jefferson High School.●

RETIRE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT R. MERHIGE, JR.

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I’d like to take a moment to pay special recognition to a good friend of mine and a distinguished former jurist, Robert R. Merhige, Jr. of Richmond, Virginia. Now in private practice after serving as a U.S. District Judge, Bob was recognized a few months ago in an article in *The National Law Journal* as the driving force behind the resolution of the Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust. The article details Judge Merhige’s efforts to resolve over 400,000 claims, and it’s clear that he accomplished this difficult task by working towards a fair

result with skill and intellect. He kept his eye on the ball until the job was concluded. I ask that the article be printed in the RECORD.

[From the National Law Journal, May 15, 2000]

\$3 BILLION LATER, DALKON TRUST CLOSES SHOP: MASS TORT CLEARINGHOUSE SEEN BY SOME AS THE BEST-RUN OUTFIT OF ITS KIND
(By Alan Cooper)

RICHMOND, VA.—The numbers are impressive, even by mass tort standards.

More than 400,000 claims reviewed. Nearly \$3 billion distributed. Administrative costs just 9%, including lawyer fees.

Even more impressive, the job is done.

The Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust closed on April 30 with a claim to being the best-managed mass tort plan so far.

Retired U.S. District Judge Robert R. Merhige, Jr., now of counsel at Hunton & Williams, gets much of the credit for what many view as the success of the trust, as well as the blame for what others see as its shortcomings.

The trust emerged from the 1985 bankruptcy petition of A.H. Robins Co., which sold 3.6 million intrauterine birth devices called the Dalkon Shield between 1971 and 1974. Robins took it off the market under government pressure.

Robins and its products liability insurer, Aetna Casualty & Surety Co., were overwhelmed by allegations that women had suffered perforated uteruses and pelvic inflammatory disease that left them sterile. More than 326,000 women filed claims in response to a worldwide ad campaign.

Judge Merhige's 1987 estimate that the liability wouldn't top \$2.475 billion set off a bidding war, won by American Home Products Corp. It acquired Robins by providing about \$2.3 billion for claimants, to be paid by the trust, and \$700 million-plus in stock to Robins shareholders.

Claimants' payments were based on amounts Robins paid to settle cases before the bankruptcy and based on their medical records. With interest, they totaled nearly \$3 billion.

Robert E. Manchester, of Burlington, Vt., who represented 3,500-plus claimants, said of Judge Merhige, "He shaped the solution by tapping into people who were willing to be constructive."

"There was a significant number of people who felt they were treated badly by the process"—mostly atypical claimants—plaintiffs' lawyer Stephen W. Bricker, of Richmond said.

James F. Szaller, of Cleveland's Brown & Szaller, said that Judge Merhige "sometimes took unusual courses, but he did get it done. The result for the vast majority of people was good."•

RETURN OF FLAGSHIP "NIAGARA" TO LAKE ERIE

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Captain Walter Rybka and the officers and crew of the Flagship *Niagara* on their return from their East Coast ten-month voyage. The Flagship *Niagara* is a symbol of Erie, Pennsylvania's history and serves as an Ambassador of the Commonwealth when it participates in tall ship events. As a resident of Pennsylvania, I am proud to have such a treasure as part of our history.

The Flagship *Niagara* has played an important role in our nation's history. It sailed proudly in the War of 1812 and fought in the Battle of Lake Erie. I commend the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Flagship Niagara League, and the City of Erie for restoring the ship and making it available so that others in the United States may learn of its history.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to those who serve on the Flagship *Niagara*. The Flagship *Niagara* is a part of Pennsylvania's history, and your commitment to the ship and to Erie is highly commendable.

RECOGNITION OF JIM SUTTON, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I would like to bring the Senate's attention today to Mr. Jim Sutton, a man who has given a generation of Kalama students a unique look at the courageous acts of an older generation—the men and women who fought in World War II. Mr. Sutton is the Superintendent of the Kalama School District and also finds the time to teach a course on World War II and the Cold War. Through his great personal interest in WWII and his desire to transfer some of his interest onto his students, Jim has made history come alive for them.

Mr. Sutton's class, based on the book *Band of Brothers*, by Stephen Ambrose, uses firsthand accounts of companies who were a part of D-Day in WWII. Ambrose's book documents the accounts of E Company, which the movie, "Saving Private Ryan," was based.

Mr. Sutton has made it possible for his students to meet some of these great men who fought in WWII. Jim has brought an Italian officer that fought Rommel in the African Campaign, a P-51 pilot who brought actual video footage from his wing cameras, a machine gunner who landed at D-Day, and a German soldier who spent two years in a Russian prisoner of war camp.

Anyone can see how Mr. Sutton recognizes the sacrifices of the WWII generation and has shared it with others. Most impressive was in June when five of Mr. Sutton's students accompanied him to the opening of the D-Day museum in New Orleans, Louisiana where students were able to meet their history book heroes in person.

I have always considered my "Innovation in Education" Awards to highlight special people and programs, and this award demonstrates how innovative a typical U.S. history class can be. Mr. Sutton has created a live link between the past and the present for his students.

Greg Rayl, Principal of Kalama Middle and High School, who nominated Mr. Sutton for the award adds, "Too

often superintendents are many steps removed from the daily classroom management and operations of their district's schools. Jim not only walks the halls interacting with students and teachers, but teaches as well."

As an avid reader of history, I am delighted to learn about Mr. Sutton who has gone the extra mile to make history come alive for his students. I ask that the Senate join me in commending Mr. Sutton for his dedication to his students and for bringing two generations together.●

STATEMENT ON THE PASSING OF MRS. CORETTA OGBURN

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mrs. Coretta Ogburn who died on Monday July 31, 2000. She was born on July 30, 1909 in Pittsburgh to the late Sally and Henry Black.

Mrs. Ogburn graduated from the Pittsburgh Public School System and later became employed for many years with the Allegheny County Health Department from which she retired in the 1970s. She was also well known as a dedicated and highly respected community leader for her committed efforts to her Church and community organizations. She was actively involved in the Negro Emergency Education Drive (NEED), the Urban League, the YWCA, the YMCA, and the Pittsburgh branch of the NAACP.

During her tenure as a member of the NAACP, Mrs. Ogburn sat on the Executive Committee, Human Rights Dinner Committee, Scholarship Committee, Women in the NAACP (WIN), and the Membership Committee. As Chair of the Membership Committee, she was instrumental in increasing branch memberships for the organization, and in 1958, she received her first award for soliciting the most NAACP memberships. In addition, the National Office of the NAACP awarded Mrs. Ogburn a medal for her accomplishments as one of the top membership solicitors in the entire nation. Mrs. Ogburn was awarded several other awards for her commitment and dedication to this organization.

It is an honor for me to recognize Mrs. Coretta Ogburn and the selfless time and energy she put towards her community. She was a true civil servant and community leader, and Pittsburgh was very blessed to have her a resident of its city. She cared a great deal for her loved ones, illustrated true dedication to the organizations which she belonged, and will be sorely missed by all those who knew her.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.